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Stated Meeting, March 4, 1904.

President SMITH in the Chair.

A communication was received from the Committee of Organization of the Fourteenth Congrès Internationale des Orientalistes, announcing that the Congress will be held in Algiers, in Easter week in 1905, and inviting the Society to send delegates. On motion, the President was authorized to appoint delegates.

A list of donations to the Library was laid on the table and thanks were ordered for them.

The following papers were read:

“Literary Remuneration in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries,” by Prof. Albert H. Smyth.

“Uranium Minerals and their Photographic Action,” by Prof. George F. Barker.

“The Native Tribes of Victoria: Their Languages and Customs,” by R. H. Mathews.

THE NATIVE TRIBES OF VICTORIA: THEIR LANGUAGES AND CUSTOMS.

BY R. H. MATHEWS, L.S.

(*Read March 4, 1904.*)

SYNOPSIS.—Prefatory. Orthography. Dhauhurtwürru Language and Vocabulary. Initiation Ceremonies. Folklore. Sociology.

The object of the present short paper is to supply some missing links in the literature of the aborigines of Victoria. For a number of years past I have devoted a portion of the leisure of a busy professional man to taking special journeys among the remnants of the Victorian tribes, for the purpose of adding to our knowledge of their languages, ceremonies, sociology and customs generally. When first entering upon this congenial task I found that little or